Seismic sensitive regions

†3196. SHRI MOTILAL VORA
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA.

Will the Ministry of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the regions of the country found to sensitive with a view of seismological tremors; and

(b) the arrangements being made by Government for protecting these regions from mass destruction in the event of natural calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Based on the seismological, geological, geotechnical, geophysical, engineering and other relevant scientific inputs, the country has been divided into four seismic zones, namely Zone II, II, IV and V. Zone V is considered to be most seismically active, while Zone II is the least. Seismic Zone V broadly comprises of entire north-eastern India, parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, parts of north Bihar and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Zone IV covers remaining parts of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, Union Territoryof Delhi, Sikkim, northern parts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, parts of Gujarat and a portion of Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

(b) The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has published various guidelines and codes for design and construction of earthquake resistant structures, as well as retrofitting of buildings etc. Losses due to earthquakes can considerably be reduced if these guidelines/codes are followed during new constructions/strengthening of existing structures etc.

Establishment of Science Park at Hesarghatta

3197. SHRI R.S. GAVAI:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka approached the Central Government for setting up of a Science Park at Hesarghatta near Bangalore at an estimated cost of Rs. 70 crores;

(b) if so, the present status of consideration of the proposal;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that 100 acres of land has already been identified for the purpose; and

(d) by when a final decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No Sir, the Government of Karnataka has not approached the Central Government for setting up of a Science Park at Hesarghatta near Bangalore.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir, the Government of Karnataka has already identified 100 acres of land for the purpose at Hesarghatta near Bangalore. The process of acquiring the said land is underway.

Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)

3198. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the decade 1992-03 the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) sanctioned more than 150 projects under three programmes;

(b) if so, how many of these sanctioned projects were not achieved or only partially achieved;

(c) whether technologies developed by TIFAC were not commercialized; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. During the period 145 projects were sanctioned under the Home Grown Technologies Mission, Advanced Composites Technologies Mission and Fly Ash Mission Projects.

(b) Out of 145 sanctioned projects, 68 have been evaluated by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. As per the report there is a success rate of 68 percent.

(c) and (d) Commercialization of technologies was attempted in all the cases and the private entrepreneurs attempted to implement the same. However, they failed to carry it beyond a point due to extreme criticality of